

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, please insert the following as the first paragraph:

This application is a U.S. National Phase Application  
under 35 USC 371 of International Application  
PCT/JP2004/015077 filed October 13, 2004.

**Please replace paragraph [0048] at page 18, lines 18-24,  
with the following amended paragraph:**

Next, in the state where the work 81 is mounted on the  
fingers 76, when the lift carrier 72 is driven by the lifting  
linear motor 73, the lift carrier 72 performs a lift motion from  
the down position to a lift position (at the upward end of the  
lift stroke). Further, when the feed carrier 52 is driven by the  
feeding linear motor 53, the feed carrier 52 ~~held by~~ that holds  
the clamp carrier 62 is subjected to a controlled drive to  
perform a feed motion. Consequently, the work 81 mounted on the  
fingers 76 is transferred from the first working process to the  
second working process.

**Please replace paragraph [0066] at page 24, lines 15-25,  
with the following amended paragraph:**

As described above, the transfer feeder 41A of the second  
embodiment is provided with the feed carrier 52A movable relative  
to the bar 14A in the feed direction, the clamp carrier ~~62~~ 62A

movable relative to the feed carrier 52 52A in the clamp direction, and the lift carrier 72A movable relative to the clamp carrier 62A in the lift direction. All these components are driven by the respective servomotors to respectively perform the feed operation, the clamp operation, and the lift operation under the control of a controller (not shown), so that consequently the transfer feeder 41A operates as a three-dimensional transfer feeder. By appropriately reciprocating the work holder held on the lift carrier 72 in the feed direction, the clamp direction and the lift direction, the work 81 is sequentially transferred from the lower die 13 on an upstream side (left side in Fig. 12) to the lower die 13 on a downstream side (right side in Fig. 12).

**Please replace paragraph [0074] at page 27, line 26 to page 28, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:**

As described above, the transfer feeder 41C of the fourth embodiment is provided with the feed carrier 52 movable relative to the bar 14 in the feed direction, and the lift carrier 72 movable relative to the feed carrier 52 in the lift direction. All these components are driven by the respective linear motors to respectively perform, in a reciprocating manner, the feed/return motion in the feed direction, and the rising/descending motion in the lift direction. All these motions constitute a two-dimensional operation. By appropriately reciprocating the cross bar 78 installed to the lift carrier 72 and the vacuum cups 79 installed to the cross bar 78 in the feed

direction and the ~~clamp~~ lift direction, the work 81 is sequentially transferred from the lower die 13 on an upstream side (left side in Fig. 14) to the lower die 13 on a downstream side (right side in Fig. 14).

**Please replace paragraph [0078] at page 28, line 28 to page 29, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:**

Further, each of the plural work holders which perform three-dimensional operation relative to the bar 14 can individually move under the control of a controller (not shown). Thus various motion patterns can be easily prepared. In other words, the operation of respective feeding linear motors 53, 53, 53, which respectively drive the feed carriers 52, 52, 52 of the first embodiment, can be individually controlled by the controller (not shown) so that different feeding speed and stroke can be respectively set. The same goes for the servomotors of the second embodiment when they are individually driven. And the same also goes for the lift motion and clamp motion when the respective ~~feed~~ carriers are individually driven.